

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method of operating a lottery, comprising the steps of:
  - 2 (a) receiving a result of a lottery drawing;
  - 3 (b) comparing said result to a plurality of stored lottery entries;
  - 4 (c) if said result corresponds to one of said plurality of stored lottery entries, identifying said one
  - 5 entry as a winning lottery entry;
  - 6 (d) identifying at least one non-winning lottery entry from said plurality of stored lottery entries;
  - 7 (e) repeating said steps (a), (b), (c) and (d) for at least one subsequent lottery drawing until said
  - 8 at least one non-winning lottery entry is identified as a winning lottery entry.
- 1 2. A method in accordance with claim 1 and further including the step of storing with each  
2 of said plurality of stored lottery entries a status, said status indicating whether the lottery entry  
3 is active or inactive.
- 1 3. A method in accordance with claim 2 wherein said active status indicates a non-winning  
2 lottery entry eligible for entry into subsequent lottery drawings, and said inactive status indicates  
3 a winning lottery entry ineligible for entry into subsequent lottery drawings.
- 1 4. A method in accordance with claim 1 and further including storing with each winning  
2 lottery entry a winning date and a prize value.
- 1 5. A method in accordance with claim 1 wherein said winning lottery entry includes a  
2 lottery number selected by a player.
- 1 6. A method in accordance with claim 1 wherein said winning lottery entry includes a  
2 lottery number selected by a lottery authority.

1 7. Apparatus for operating a lottery, comprising:  
2 a processor;  
3 a memory connected to said processor, said memory storing  
4 a result of a lottery drawing, and  
5 a plurality of stored lottery entries;  
6 said processor operative to  
7 (a) identify, if said result corresponds to one of said plurality of stored lottery entries, said  
8 one of said plurality of stored lottery entries as a winning lottery entry,  
9 (b) identify at least one non-winning lottery entry from said plurality of stored lottery  
10 entries, and  
11 (c) repeat operations (a) and (b) for at least one result of a subsequent lottery drawing  
12 until said at least one non-winning lottery entry is identified as a winning lottery entry.

1 8. Apparatus in accordance with claim 7 wherein said processor is further operative to store  
2 with each of said plurality of stored lottery entries a status, said status indicating whether a  
3 lottery entry is active or inactive.

1 9. Apparatus in accordance with claim 8 wherein said active status indicates a non-winning  
2 lottery entry eligible for entry into future lottery drawings, and said inactive status indicates a  
3 winning lottery entry ineligible for entry into future lottery drawings.

1 10. Apparatus in accordance with claim 7 wherein said processor is further operative to store  
2 with each winning lottery entry a winning date and a prize value.

1 11. Apparatus in accordance with claim 7 wherein said winning lottery entry includes a  
2 lottery number selected by a player.

1 12. Apparatus in accordance with claim 7 wherein said winning lottery entry includes a  
2 lottery number selected by a lottery authority.

1 13. Apparatus for operating a lottery, comprising:  
2 first means for receiving a result of a lottery drawing;  
3 second means for comparing said result to a plurality of stored lottery entries;  
4 third means, if said result matches one of said plurality of stored lottery entries, for  
5 identifying said one of said plurality of stored lottery entries as a winning lottery entry; and  
6 fourth means for identifying at least one non-winning lottery entry from said plurality of  
7 stored lottery entries;  
8 said first, second, third and fourth means continuing to operate for at least one subsequent  
9 lottery drawing until said at least one non-winning lottery entry is identified as a winning lottery  
10 entry.

1 14. A computer program product, comprising:  
2 a computer useable medium having program code thereon for operating a lottery, said  
3 program code comprising:  
4 first program code for receiving a result of a lottery drawing;  
5 second program code for comparing said result to a plurality of stored lottery entries;  
6 third program code, if said result matches one of said plurality of stored lottery entries,  
7 for identifying said one of said plurality of stored lottery entries as a winning lottery entry; and  
8 fourth program code for identifying at least one non-winning lottery entry from said  
9 plurality of stored lottery entries;  
10 said first, second, third and fourth program code continuing to operate for at least one  
11 subsequent lottery drawing until said at least one non-winning lottery entry is identified as a  
12 winning lottery entry.

1 15. A method for processing lottery entries usable in a plurality of lottery drawings,  
2 comprising the steps of:  
3 receiving a request to purchase a lottery entry;

4 receiving with said request an indicator that said lottery entry is to be entered into a  
5 plurality of lottery drawings until a lottery drawing identifies said lottery entry as a winner; and  
6 storing said lottery entry.

1 16. A method in accordance with claim 15 and further including the step of charging a fee for  
2 said lottery entry, said fee based at least in part on said indicator.

1 17. A method in accordance with claim 15 and further including the steps of:  
2 associating with said lottery entry a lottery ticket number; and  
3 storing said lottery ticket number with said lottery entry.

1 18. Apparatus for processing lottery entries usable in a plurality of lottery drawings,  
2 comprising:  
3 a processor;  
4 a memory connected to said processor;  
5 said processor operative to  
6 receive a lottery entry, and  
7 receive with said lottery entry an indicator that said lottery entry is to be entered  
8 into a plurality of lottery drawings until a lottery drawing identifies said lottery entry as a  
9 winner, and  
10 store said lottery entry in said memory.

1 19. Apparatus in accordance with claim 18, said processor further operative to calculate a fee  
2 for said lottery entry, said fee based at least in part on said indicator.

1 20. Apparatus in accordance with claim 18, said processor further operative to:  
2 associate with said lottery entry a lottery ticket number; and  
3 store said lottery ticket number with said lottery entry in said memory.

1 21. Apparatus for processing lottery entries usable in a plurality of lottery drawings,  
2 comprising:

3 means for receiving a request to purchase a lottery entry;  
4 means for receiving with said request an indicator that said lottery entry is to be entered  
5 into a plurality of lottery drawings until a lottery drawing identifies said lottery entry as a  
6 winner; and  
7 means for storing said lottery entry.

1 22. A computer program product, comprising:  
2 a computer useable medium having program code thereon for processing lottery entries, said  
3 program code comprising:  
4 program code for receiving a request to purchase a lottery entry;  
5 program code for receiving with said request an indicator that said lottery entry is to be  
6 entered into a plurality of lottery drawings until a lottery drawing identifies said lottery entry as  
7 a winner; and  
8 program code for storing said lottery entry.

1 23. A method for processing lottery entries usable in a plurality of lottery drawings,  
2 comprising the steps of:  
3 receiving a request to purchase a lottery entry;  
4 receiving with said request an indicator that said lottery entry is to be entered into a  
5 plurality of lottery drawings until a lottery drawing identifies said lottery entry as a winner; and  
6 transmitting said request with said indicator to a remote lottery authority.

1 24. A method in accordance with claim 23 and further including the step of receiving from  
2 said remote lottery authority data confirming said lottery entry.

1 25. A method in accordance with claim 24 wherein said data includes a lottery ticket number;  
2 and further including the step of  
3 storing said lottery ticket number.

1 26. A method in accordance with claim 23 wherein said step of receiving a request to  
2 purchase a lottery entry includes receiving a sense mark form.

1 27. A method in accordance with claim 26 wherein said step of receiving with said request an  
2 indicator includes receiving said indicator on said sense mark form.

1 28. A method in accordance with claim 23 and further including the step of outputting a  
2 lottery ticket identifying said lottery entry.

1 29. Apparatus for processing lottery entries usable in a plurality of lottery drawings,  
2 comprising:  
3 a processor;  
4 a memory connected to said processor and storing  
5 a request to purchase a lottery entry,  
6 an indicator, with said request, that said lottery entry is to be entered into a  
7 plurality of lottery drawings until a lottery drawing identifies said lottery entry as a winner; and  
8 said processor operative to  
9 transmit said request with said indicator to a remote lottery authority.

1 30. Apparatus in accordance with claim 29, said processor further operative to receive from  
2 said remote lottery authority data confirming said lottery entry.

1 31. Apparatus in accordance with claim 30 wherein said data includes a lottery ticket  
2 number; said processor further operative to  
3 store said lottery ticket number in said memory.

1 32. Apparatus in accordance with claim 29, and further comprising:  
2 means for reading a sense mark form connected to said processor; and  
3 said request to purchase a lottery entry including data on a sense mark form.

1 33. Apparatus in accordance with claim 32 wherein said indicator includes data on said sense  
2 mark form.

1 34. Apparatus in accordance with claim 29 wherein said processor is further operative to  
2 generate a signal for printing a lottery ticket identifying said lottery entry.

1 35. Apparatus for processing lottery entries usable in a plurality of lottery drawings,  
2 comprising:  
3 means for receiving a request to purchase a lottery entry;  
4 means for receiving with said request an indicator that said lottery entry is to be entered  
5 into a plurality of lottery drawings until a lottery drawing identifies said lottery entry as a  
6 winner; and  
7 means for transmitting said request with said indicator to a remote lottery authority.

1 36. A computer program product, comprising:  
2 a computer useable medium having program code thereon for processing lottery entries, said  
3 program code comprising:  
4 program code for receiving a request to purchase a lottery entry;  
5 program code for receiving with said request an indicator that said lottery entry is to be  
6 entered into a plurality of lottery drawings until a lottery drawing identifies said lottery entry as  
7 a winner; and  
8 program code for transmitting said request with said indicator to a remote lottery  
9 authority.

1 37. A method for generating lottery entries usable in a plurality of lottery drawings,  
2 comprising the steps of:  
3 receiving a request to purchase a lottery entry;  
4 receiving with said request an indicator that said lottery entry is to be entered into a  
5 plurality of lottery drawings until a lottery drawing identifies said lottery entry as a winner;  
6 generating a ticket number for said lottery entry to validate said lottery entry and said  
7 indicator; and  
8 transmitting said ticket number to a remote terminal.

1 38. A method in accordance with claim 37 and further including the step of storing said  
2 lottery entry for use in at least one lottery drawing.

1 39. A method in accordance with claim 38 wherein said storing step includes storing said  
2 lottery entry with a plurality of lottery entries to be entered into a plurality of lottery drawings.

1 40. A method in accordance with claim 38 and further including the steps of:  
2 generating a start date for said lottery entry; and  
3 storing said start date with said lottery entry.

1 41. A method in accordance with claim 37 wherein said request further includes a lottery  
2 game type.

1 42. A method in accordance with claim 37 and further including the steps of:  
2 generating a price for said lottery entry; and  
3 transmitting said price to said remote terminal.

1 43. Apparatus for generating lottery entries usable in a plurality of lottery drawings,  
2 comprising:  
3 a processor;  
4 a memory connected to said processor and storing  
5 a request to purchase a lottery entry, and  
6 an indicator that said lottery entry is to be entered into a plurality of lottery  
7 drawings until a lottery drawing identifies said lottery entry as a winner;  
8 said processor operative to  
9 generate a ticket number for said lottery entry to validate said lottery entry and  
10 said indicator; and  
11 transmit said ticket number to a remote terminal.

1 44. Apparatus in accordance with claim 43 wherein said memory further includes a plurality  
2 of lottery entries each to be entered into a plurality of lottery drawings.



- 1 45. Apparatus in accordance with claim 43 wherein said processor is further operative to:  
2 generate a start date for said lottery entry; and  
3 store said start date and said lottery entry in said memory.
- 1 46. Apparatus in accordance with claim 43 wherein said request further includes a lottery  
2 game type.
- 1 47. Apparatus in accordance with claim 43 wherein said processor is further operative to:  
2 generate a price for said lottery entry; and  
3 transmit said price to said remote terminal.
- 1 48. Apparatus for generating lottery entries usable in a plurality of lottery drawings,  
2 comprising:  
3 means for receiving a request to purchase a lottery entry;  
4 means for receiving with said request an indicator that said lottery entry is to be entered  
5 into a plurality of lottery drawings until a lottery drawing identifies said lottery entry as a  
6 winner;  
7 means for generating a ticket number for said lottery entry to validate said lottery entry  
8 and said indicator; and  
9 means for transmitting said ticket number to a remote terminal.
- 1 49. A computer program product, comprising:  
2 a computer useable medium having program code thereon for generating lottery entries,  
3 said program code comprising:  
4 program code for receiving a request to purchase a lottery entry;  
5 program code for receiving with said request an indicator that said lottery entry is to be  
6 entered into a plurality of lottery drawings until a lottery drawing identifies said lottery entry as  
7 a winner;  
8 program code for generating a ticket number for said lottery entry to validate said lottery  
9 entry and said indicator; and  
10 program code for transmitting said ticket number to a remote terminal.

1 50. A method of pricing a lottery entry, comprising the steps of:  
2 receiving a request to purchase a lottery entry, said request including an indicator that  
3 said lottery entry is to be entered into a plurality of lottery drawings until a lottery drawing  
4 identifies said lottery entry as a winner;  
5 calculating a price for said lottery entry, said price based at least in part on the inclusion  
6 of said indicator.

1 51. A method in accordance with claim 50 wherein said step of calculating a price for said  
2 lottery entry includes:  
3 determining, for a plurality of potential payouts of said lottery drawing, a total number  
4 for said plurality of potential payouts and a value for each of said plurality of potential payouts;  
5 determining a probability of each of said plurality of potential payouts for said lottery  
6 entry; and  
7 calculating said price based at least in part on the results of said determining steps.

1 52. A method in accordance with claim 50 wherein said calculating step includes calculating  
2 said price based at least in part on a potential payout of a first lottery drawing including said  
3 lottery entry.

1 53. A method in accordance with claim 50 wherein said calculating step includes calculating  
2 said price based at least in part on a potential average payout of a plurality of lottery drawings.

1 54. Apparatus for pricing a lottery entry, comprising:  
2 a processor;  
3 a memory connected to said processor and storing a request to purchase a lottery entry,  
4 said request including an indicator that said lottery entry is to be entered into a plurality of  
5 lottery drawings until a lottery drawing identifies said lottery entry as a winner;  
6 said processor operative to  
7 calculate a price for said lottery entry, said price based at least in part on the  
8 inclusion of said indicator, and  
9 store said price in said memory.

1 55. Apparatus in accordance with claim 54 wherein said operation of calculating a price for said  
2 lottery entry includes the operations of:  
3 determining, for a plurality of potential payouts of said lottery drawing, a total number  
4 for said plurality of potential payouts and a value for each of said plurality of potential payouts;  
5 determining a probability of each of said plurality of potential payouts for said lottery  
6 entry; and  
7 calculating said price based at least in part on the results of said determining steps.

1 56. Apparatus in accordance with claim 54 wherein said calculating operation includes  
2 calculating said price based at least in part on a potential payout of a first lottery drawing  
3 including said lottery entry.

1 57. Apparatus in accordance with claim 54 wherein said calculating operation includes  
2 calculating said price based at least in part on a potential average payout of a plurality of lottery  
3 drawings.

1 58. Apparatus for pricing a lottery entry, comprising:  
2 means for receiving a request to purchase a lottery entry, said request including an  
3 indicator that said lottery entry is to be entered into a plurality of lottery drawings until a lottery  
4 drawing identifies said lottery entry as a winner;  
5 means for calculating a price for said lottery entry, said price based at least in part on the  
6 inclusion of said indicator.

1 59. A computer program product, comprising:  
2 a computer useable medium having program code thereon for pricing lottery entries, said  
3 program code comprising:  
4 program code for receiving a request to purchase a lottery entry, said request  
5 including an indicator that said lottery entry is to be entered into a plurality of lottery drawings  
6 until a lottery drawing identifies said lottery entry as a winner;  
7 program code for calculating a price for said lottery entry, said price based at least in part  
8 on the inclusion of said indicator.

1 60. A method of reporting the status of a lottery entry, comprising the steps of:  
2 receiving a request for a status of a lottery entry, said lottery entry of a type to be entered  
3 into a plurality of lottery drawings until a lottery drawing identifies said lottery entry as a  
4 winner; and  
5 outputting said status of said lottery entry.

1 61. A method in accordance with claim 60 wherein said status indicates if said lottery entry is  
2 a winning lottery entry or a non-winning lottery entry.

1 62. A method in accordance with claim 61 and further including the step, if said status  
2 indicates that said lottery entry is a winning lottery entry, of outputting a drawing date for said  
3 winning lottery entry.

1 63. A method in accordance with claim 60 wherein said outputting step includes transmitting  
2 said status over a telephone line.

1 64. A method in accordance with claim 60 wherein said outputting step includes transmitting  
2 said status over a computer data network.

1 65. Apparatus for reporting the status of a lottery entry, comprising:  
2 a processor;  
3 a memory connected to said processor and storing a lottery entry of a type to be entered  
4 into a plurality of lottery drawings until a lottery drawing identifies said lottery entry as a  
5 winner;  
6 said processor operative to  
7 receive a request for a status of said lottery entry, and  
8 outputting said status of said lottery entry.

1 66. Apparatus in accordance with claim 65 wherein said status indicates if said lottery entry  
2 is a winning lottery entry or a non-winning lottery entry.

1 67. Apparatus in accordance with claim 66, wherein:  
2 said memory further storing a drawing date for said winning lottery entry; and  
3 said processor further operative, if said status indicates that said lottery entry is a winning lottery  
4 entry, to output said drawing date.

1 68. Apparatus in accordance with claim 65 and further including an output device connected  
2 to said processor for transmitting signals indicative of said status over a telephone line.

1 69. Apparatus in accordance with claim 65 and further including an output device connected  
2 to said processor for transmitting signals indicative of said status over a computer data network.

1 70. Apparatus for reporting the status of a lottery entry, comprising:  
2 means for receiving a request for a status of a lottery entry, said lottery entry of a type to  
3 be entered into a plurality of lottery drawings until a lottery drawing identifies said lottery entry  
4 as a winner; and  
5 means for outputting said status of said lottery entry.

1 71. A computer program product, comprising:  
2 a computer useable medium having program code thereon for reporting a status of lottery  
3 entries, said program code comprising:  
4 program code for receiving a request for a status of a lottery entry, said lottery entry of a  
5 type to be entered into a plurality of lottery drawings until a lottery drawing identifies said  
6 lottery entry as a winner; and  
7 program code for outputting said status of said lottery entry.

1 72. A method in accordance with claim 50 and further including the step of generating  
2 billing statements for portions of said price whereby said price can be billed in payments.

1 73. A method in accordance with claim 72 wherein said step of generating billing statements  
2 includes generating credit card billing statements.